Exhibit F

1 ROUGH RULING IN BAUM V LE-NATURE'S ON 10/27

- THE COURT: This is a regrettable day.
- 3 I mean, it was an unusual situation, I will say. As
- 4 the defendants know, this Court is probably among the
- 5 most reluctant courts anywhere -- if there is a court
- 6 anywhere in the country more reluctant to hold ex

- 7 parte proceedings, I'm not sure where it is. We don't
- 8 lightly do that. And I am particularly vigilant about
- 9 insisting that folks give notice. So when I entered
- 10 the TRO, it was with that mind-set, and it was a very
- 11 unusual thing. But I was presented with extremely
- 12 unusual evidence. And I still -- and I scheduled this
- 13 today because, obviously, the company -- the insiders
- 14 needed to be given an opportunity to explain.
- 15 Frankly, the sophistry -- sophistry is
- 16 not going to cut it, the idea that I can sort of --
- 17 you can sort of make someone whole out of other
- 18 accounts and explain away what, as of this date, is
- 19 extremely strong and unrebutted evidence of forgery of
- 20 important commercial documents. I don't know where
- 21 you can get away with that kind of nonsense. Maybe on
- 22 a soap opera in the afternoon, some hypothetical
- 23 trial, but not in the Delaware Court of Chancery, and

- 24 certainly not in any federal court that I have ever
 - 1 heard of.
- When a company like AIG has an
- 3 equipment financing line, and when their security is
- 4 in the equipment to be financed, you know, one would
- 5 think it would be passing strange for them to push a
- 6 button and transmit tens of millions of dollars to the
- 7 equipment manufacturer, only for the equipment
- 8 manufacturer to turn around and send the bulk of the
- 9 money back to the company for whom the equipment was
- 10 being made as cash. The commercial circumstances in
- 11 which AIG -- and that's why I -- AIG would do that, it

- 12 doesn't make any sense to me. If AIG just wanted its
- 13 money back, without any kind of interest, or it wanted
- 14 to fund a revolver, AIG may have a financing arm that
- 15 funds revolvers. There are people -- Citigroup, other
- 16 kinds of groups -- that fund revolvers for
- 17 corporations. They have certain terms, and they are
- 18 probably different than the terms that are given by
- 19 equipment financing entities.
- 20 I mean, I just am trying to figure out
- 21 the commercial logic for AIG. You push the button,
- 22 yes. Push the button on, say, the one with the
- 23 13 million. "We are going to give you 13 million,
- 24 Krones, and we are going to allow 11 million of the
 - 1 money we just sent out, or so, to go right back to the
- 2 company." I don't really get it.
- 3 So commercially, it doesn't make a lot '
- 4 of sense. Then we have a situation where no one has
- 5 come forward from the company to really deny this.
- 6 And you have a September 1 letter, with Mr. Gensor's
- 7 supposed signature on it, that is agreed to by
- 8 Mr. Podlucky before a notary. There is no need for
- 9 Mr. Podlucky to go to Germany. Has nothing to do with
- 10 Germany. Wasn't even sent to Krones in Germany. It
- 11 was sent to Krones in Wisconsin.
- 12 An AIG letter agreed to by
- 13 Mr. Podlucky makes its way to Krones. This isn't even
- 14 that long ago. September 1st. I have got nothing
- 15 coming back indicating, "I remember signing this
- 16 before the notary. This was brought to me by staff

- 17 who heard from Mr. Gensor, who said, 'We need to get
- 18 this out to Krones.'" Nothing.
- 19 And even if AIG is later made whole,
- 20 somebody has got to explain, if that was forged. If
- 21 it was forged, it would be utterly irresponsible for
- 22 this Court of equity to leave, in this situation, with
- 23 a hotly contested control contest -- to leave folks
- 24 who had forged documents in control of a Delaware
- 1 entity. Start with that one. There is more than a
- 2 reasonable probability of success on the merits with
- 3 respect to the claim that there have been grotesque
- 4 improprieties that would justify the appointment of a
- 5 custodian or receiver.
- 6 In my order, I did not take lightly
- 7 having an oral argument and reading things and
- 8 discussing capital -- large capital expenditures which
- 9 were -- which the plaintiffs put on strong evidence
- 10 were in violation of their contractual rights, and
- 11 which were -- which were being implemented by the
- 12 incumbent management without the approval of the full
- 13 board, when there is a strong sense that there was an
- 14 after-the-fact preparation of a board minute to
- 15 reflect what people wished would have been the state
- 16 of affairs, but was not -- have an entire oral
- 17 argument about this; put in place a preliminary
- 18 injunction order that required the defendants to give
- 19 notice with respect to capital expenditures and to --
- 20 and this is very important -- to honor the obligations
- 21 they had to directors, in the ordinary course, to

- 22 provide them with material information, only to find
- 23 out that was entirely hypothetical; that I was
- 24 involved -- without Mr. Manwaring's even knowledge,

- 1 his clients had us all involved in a moot court,
- 2 whereby some Fantasy Island story -- we didn't even
- 3 get to see Tattoo, but we had Fantasy Island. But it
- 4 was really more Nightmare Island, where Mr. Manwaring
- 5 would get up and say a bunch of nonsense, because in
- 6 fact, the decision had already been made to pull out
- 7 of Jacksonville and head for Phoenix.
- 8 And then when it's turned out now that
- 9 supposedly the company is going to be spending -- the
- 10 company is going to be spending 65, \$75 million in
- 11 Phoenix, "But that decision was already made in May.
- 12 Therefore, Your Honor, it wasn't a violation of your
- 13 order, because we just basically told you a bunch of
- 14 nonsense before. So, you know, your order didn't
- 15 apply, because we had already -- we had already moved
- 16 the stuff. No, we didn't tell the independent
- 17 directors, and they never approved of this." And this
- 18 is a business, by the way -- appears to be a healthy
- 19 business, but they had a situation where they opened
- 20 two new production lines in its major facility. It's
- 21 just an "Oh, by the way." It's not like members of
- 22 the board of directors aren't entitled to information
- 23 about that.

 \Box

24 It's not like it's not a breach of

_

1 fiduciary duty, obviously, by the CEO, to be making

- 2 those sorts of decisions in isolation, without
- 3 informing the board, particularly when he knows that
- 4 members of the board have concerns about the capital
- 5 investments of the company. It's also not appropriate
- 6 for incumbent managers of a company, confronted with a
- 7 preliminary injunction order presented to them by
- 8 qualified counsel, to not call -- tell counsel "What
- 9 we have told you to tell the Court is fiction."
- 10 Mr. Podlucky should have told
- 11 Mr. Manwaring, "I have put you in an awful situation."
- 12 I'm not even sure, frankly, Mr. Manwaring -- and I'm
- 13 not asking you to address this, but -- I have a great
- 14 deal of respect for the Pepper firm. It's a
- 15 long-standing firm. This one, I can't even imagine --
- 16 I would have had to have a restraining order, myself,
- 17 against myself, for not going after my client. I
- 18 mean, I was here. I remember that discussion. I
- 19 remember talking about the just-in-time thing, and "We
- 20 needed to get a plant closer to where people buy
- 21 Le-Nature's products," and all that stuff. I know
- 22 exactly the context for this. I took the time to read
- 23 all the documents from Mr. Podlucky and the people at
- 24 Le-Nature's that were submitted in rebuttal to the
- 1 plaintiff. Not one of them said, "We have already
- 2 moved to Phoenix. They are plumb out of luck. We
- 3 have a technical reason why we didn't breach the
- 4 contractual rights." Doesn't say that.

 \Box

- 5 I also am not clear -- I actually
- 6 think I'm pretty clear that my preliminary injunction

- 7 order doesn't really let them escape that much. I
- 8 mean, we also had the undisputed "settle the lawsuit"
- 9 without complying with the order. It's not clear to
- 10 me, at all, how Krones going on to manufacture
- 11 equipment for the second line is not going to incur
- 12 liability of a million dollars or more, how this was
- 13 not discussed at the board. I think there has just
- 14 been an entire wholesale flouting of this Court's
- 15 order and of the fiduciary obligations that the
- 16 members of the board owe to each other.
- 17 So in terms of any kind of merits
- 18 determination, seems to me there is clear, basically
- 19 unrebutted, evidence of potential criminal conduct,
- 20 forgery, that would justify the order; basically,
- 21 undisputed evidence of breaches of my order and
- 22 undisputed evidence of breaches of fiduciary duty
- 23 regarding the information that has to be shared with
- 24 fellow directors and, frankly, regarding the
- 1 managerial rights of the directors, which is for the
- 2 protection of stockholders.
- CEOs are not allowed to go around and
- 4 just willy-nilly change business plans knowing that
- 5 the board has concerns about it, knowing it's
- 6 material. There is also this nonsense about how you
- 7 can't close the books and records for the company, so
- 8 essentially, during the period when the preliminary
- 9 injunction order is in effect, any of the -- any of
- 10 the kind of ordinary P&L statements can't be relied
- 11 upon. That is nonsense. So as long as the defendants

- 12 essentially don't close the books and records, they
- 13 can do anything they want during that period and claim
- 14 it as an excuse?
- This is an extraordinary situation.
- 16 In terms of the balancing of the equities on this,
- 17 they are really clear. I have absolutely no
- 18 confidence that my order will be honored, that there
- 19 is any reasonable way to protect the company or its
- 20 constituents without the entry of an order. There is
- 21 no countervailing public interest here, because, you
- 22 know, basically the defendants say, "Give us time to
- 23 work around the Fifth Amendment and to come up with
- 24 some excuse that won't even directly rebut the

- 1 allegation of forgery, but will essentially say, "We
- 2 can make one of the entities that was victimized, if
- 3 there was forgery, whole, and maybe then we can escape
- 4 responsibility."

 \Box

- Yeah. Maybe there are people in the
- 6 outside world who are paid to do that. They are
- 7 called white collar criminal attorneys. The job of
- 8 the judiciary, obviously, is not to be enlisted on the
- 9 defense team and to allow folks time to create anymore
- 10 -- even more harm while that kind of maneuvering is
- 11 going on.
- 12 So I'm going to enter this order. I
- 13 do want some alterations. I think I have said enough
- 14 about the merits here, that there is a -- if you want
- 15 to say there is a mandatory injunction standard in
- 16 here, I think it's satisfied. I don't think, given

- 17 the affidavit testimony from AIG, the inability of
- 18 Mr. Podlucky to even address the September 1 letter,
- 19 despite the fact that he can say many things about
- 20 how, you know, he will get them their money -- I
- 21 consider that, essentially, unrebutted evidence.
- 22 There is unrebutted evidence of breaches of my order.
- 23 So if you want to say mandatory injunction standard;
- 24 satisfied. And certainly any preliminary injunction

1 standard is satisfied.

- 2 So I think we should just reference
- 3 that, Mr. Clark -- that it's basically been determined
- 4 that there has been unrebutted evidence of breaches of
- 5 fiduciary duty, of this Court's preliminary injunction
- 6 order, and of forged transactional documents; that for
- 7 the reasons stated in this Court's oral opinion, just
- 8 warrant the relief, and then we will leave it at that.
- 9 With respect to -- I'm happy to call
- 10 it a custodian, if that does it. The custodian is
- 11 going to have the full powers to run the business. I
- 12 think there should be something -- the question is --
- 13 and what I would like is to put in place something,
- 14 and to have the custodian come back to me and comment
- 15 on the order. You know, the issue is raised, for
- 16 example, with respect to things like whether the
- 17 defendants are going to continue to get paid or not.
- 18 I don't know whether -- I don't want to invite --
- 19 I don't want to invite a sort of every
- 20 day, every week I have a Le-Nature's conference call
- 21 about what is going on at the business. The custodian

- 22 is going to run the business. The question is what do
- 23 we do with out-of-the-ordinary kind of proposals that
- 24 have to be made, and how that should be done. I would

- 1 think we need to -- what we need to do is get in place
- 2 an order immediately, because -- and I say right now,
- 3 orally, to Mr. Manwaring and his colleagues, you had
- 4 better get ahold of your clients and basically tell
- 5 them, "Don't be doing anything. There is already a
- 6 TRO order in place." But it seems to me, in the first
- 7 instance, for some out-of-the-ordinary issues, the
- 8 receiver/custodian should try to go to the board in
- 9 the first instance, see if there can be agreement, but
- 10 that if not, may have to come to me, with a heavy
- 11 presumption that I'm going to give the receiver/the
- 12 custodian deference.
- The custodian is going to be able to
- 14 exercise, under business judgment rule, what it does.
- 15 It's not going to be -- I'm not going to sit around
- 16 and have appeals. For example, if the custodian
- 17 decides to interview top management and they take the
- 18 Fifth Amendment with respect to the September 1
- 19 letter, don't expect me, if the custodian says, "I'm
- 20 stopping paying them" -- don't expect I'm going to
- 21 overturn that judgment.
- 22 MR. CLARK: Your Honor, may I ask a
- 23 question?

:

24 THE COURT: No. Let me finish.

- One of the principal virtues of this
- 2 is that we can have a rational time to talk about a
- 3 January trial. That is kind of, actually, an
- 4 oxymoron. There is probably no rational way to
- 5 proceed that isn't going to ruin the holidays of the
- 6 lawyers involved. I think what we can have is a
- 7 custodian in place who sort of runs this business.
- 8 Let's have a final trial. No use having another
- 9 injunction proceeding. I think the custodian -- one
- 10 of the first jobs of the custodian is to get its own
- 11 counsel. The custodian, I will put on the record, is
- 12 responsible to the Court and to the constituency of
- 13 the company as a fiduciary. The plaintiffs are going
- 14 to have to kind of step back, themselves. They will
- 15 be directors. They will get information.
- 16 I'm going to go with their choice not
- 17 because it's their choice so much as it's a qualified
- 18 receiver, it's a reputable firm, and we need to get
- 19 going. I want the custodian -- I think we probably
- 20 ought to have a status conference within ten days,
- 21 where the custodian appears with outside counsel, so
- 22 we can get an order -- I want the custodian to have
- 23 the ability to comment on the order, us to have a
- 24 conference.

And look, I am not here to take sides

- 2 in this dispute. That is not what the Court is doing.
- 3 What we are trying to do is to maintain the status quo
- 4 in a way that can allow you to have your fight.
- I am going to terminate the stay of

- 6 the litigation. I don't know -- I think if the
- 7 company -- if the defendants want to fight about the
- 8 fact that they would have been able to close, you
- 9 know, they can fight about that. I have kind of grave
- 10 doubts that they would have been able to close, given
- 11 the time line that was presented involving Wachovia,
- 12 which doesn't have closing occurring by the deadline.
- 13 There is also this other thing, which is it's not
- 14 entirely clear to me that a person operating in good
- 15 faith could responsibly close a transaction of the
- 16 magnitude contemplated by the settlement agreement
- 17 until the concerns raised by AIG were resolved. I
- 18 don't know.
- 19 Selling a business and having a fairly
- 20 major financing company saying, "Well, there are these
- 21 couple of multi-million dollar transactional documents
- 22 that have come to light that weren't actually signed
- 23 by anyone at our company, but we are going to close
- 24 this deal, anyway" -- maybe that is why I'm a judge.

- 1 I'm not quite as gutsy as some people in the
- 2 transactional world. But I have my doubts. And you
- 3 can have a fair fight about that. If Mr. Podlucky and
- 4 his friends are right and the deal should not have
- 5 been terminated, we can find that out at a trial. But
- 6 we are going to terminate the stay, and you can all
- 7 talk about a schedule. I think we are talking about
- 8 trial, probably, early January.
- 9 Obviously, we have got -- Mr. Williams
- 10 intervened, or -- Mr. Williams, the lawyer, actually

- 11 filed an intervention on behalf of the person on the
- 12 \$5 million settlements, so we have more people. But I
- 13 guess what I'm saying, though -- and I want to
- 14 emphasize this to Mr. Clark and his clients. I'm
- 15 appointing Kroll. Kroll is then a fiduciary. Kroll
- 16 needs to get its own lawyers to, essentially, act as
- 17 company counsel. I don't --

- 18 Frankly, Mr. Manwaring, the fact that
- 19 your firm may now have to be paid by the
- 20 independent -- individual defendants is something the
- 21 receiver is going to talk about. There are insurance
- 22 contracts and other things, probably D&O insurance
- 23 that Mr. Podlucky has, and you better explore that.
- 24 Mr. Clark, be reasonable about this. I don't want to

- 1 have a hostage taking. I don't want emergencies. But
- 2 there is going to be a transition here. The receiver
- 3 is going to run the business, and it's going to be a
- 4 difficult time. This is not ideal.
- Go ahead, Mr. Manwaring.
- 6 MR. MANWARING: Your Honor, in terms
- 7 of -- if the -- just a question. If the custodian is
- 8 running the company and have their own counsel -- up
- 9 to now, I have represented the company and the inside
- 10 directors, in their capacity as such. Now, can I --
- 11 I'm at a loss. Can I continue to represent -- I don't
- 12 represent the company anymore.
- THE COURT: But guess what?
- MR. MANWARING: Can I continue, now?
- 15 I have been exposed to confidential stuff on both

- 16 sides of the --
- 17 THE COURT: I'm not your ethics
- 18 counsel.
- MR. MANWARING: I know.
- 20 THE COURT: I have been to enough -- I
- 21 have been -- I was counsel to, you know, the chief
- 22 executive of the state, and I have been involved in a
- 23 fair amount of CLE programs on crisis management and
- 24 other sorts of things. The reality is, Mr. Manwaring,

- 1 I think when you and your colleagues -- if you
- 2 listened to the oral argument today, at the time when
- 3 you are sitting around figuring out how to respond and
- 4 taking into account the potential for criminal
- 5 sanctions against individuals, you already -- you were
- 6 already across the Alleghney on that. I mean -- and
- 7 you all, as a firm, have probably got a choice to
- 8 make. And the reality is you have not -- you are
- 9 representing the incumbent management in a factional
- 10 fight, and you can make your choices.
- 11 What I'm saying to Mr. Clark is -- and
- 12 I will say to the custodian -- I don't want some sort
- 13 of emergency thing done, but the reality is if the
- 14 custodian has to hire counsel, they are going to hire
- 15 counsel. And they are required. I'm requiring them
- 16 to get counsel. They are going to -- and if you --
- 17 you probably have got your choice. It comes often
- 18 with these rules, which is if -- if you want to
- 19 represent Mr. Podlucky, and that's really been your
- 20 man, then you can probably continue to do that.

- 21 Frankly, you probably have a duty to think about which
- 22 side of this you are on, given the criminal
- 23 implications that have been raised.
- MR. MANWARING: For purposes of this

1 ruling, I don't represent the company anymore, as of

- 2 today, because you are appointing them and telling the
- 3 custodian to get their own counsel. As of this ruling
- 4 today, I am not the company's counsel. I'm asking for
- 5 clarification.
- 6 THE COURT: No. I said -- if the
- 7 custodian wishes to hire you, I suppose it -- he or
- 8 she is free -- I think it's an it if it's Kroll. I
- 9 don't know what we do, the person, whatever it is.
- 10 You guys can talk about that. I think it's an
- 11 unlikely choice. Just as I said, I think it's
- 12 unlikely they would hire Mr. Clark. The custodian has
- 13 to do what it has to do. Its job is to make sure the
- 14 corpus is intact, to get the basic integrity issues
- 15 dealt with and the corpus remains viable so your
- 16 clients can fight about the remains.
- 17 I'm not sitting here terminating you
- 18 all as company counsel from the bench, but if you want
- 19 me -- to the extent you want my guidance, do I think
- 20 that there is -- it's fairly elementary that there is
- 21 the potential for a fairly serious conflict of
- 22 interest between Mr. Podlucky and the company if he is
- 23 the one who signed this September 1 contract, and if
- 24 it in fact never was sent to him by AIG, or there is a

- 1 possibility that that -- that it never was, and if he
- 2 is sufficiently exposed to criminal culpability that
- 3 he can't file an affidavit addressing that simple
- 4 fact, the circumstance of his creation? I would be
- 5 willing to venture that is probably elementary, that
- 6 he has something to think about.
- 7 MR. MANWARING: Just one other
- 8 clarification. Will the individual defendants, as
- 9 part of this custodianship, have access to the records
- 10 to defend themselves?

- 11 THE COURT: I think the custodian is
- 12 going to be a custodian of the books and records of
- 13 the company. The custodian will not -- will make the
- 14 determinations that a fiduciary would make. The
- 15 directors of the company ordinarily have access to the
- 16 books and records. But the custodian is going to
- 17 control them. There will, obviously, be discovery.
- 18 No, they are not going to be sitting inside, probably.
- 19 The custodian will determine whether Mr. Podlucky
- 20 comes to work Monday. I think it's going to be a
- 21 fairly unusual decision, to be honest, if the
- 22 custodian decides he ought to be sitting in the big
- 23 office and be able to hack away on the computer. And
- 24 he is already not supposed to be destroying evidence.

1 And I don't see any reason why the custodian is going

- 2 to be spoliating evidence. That would be a fairly bad
- 3 thing for a firm like Kroll to do, if it wants to be a
- 4 turn-around specialist in bankruptcies and other kinds
- 5 of things, where there are all kinds of constituencies

- 6 that have an interest in the preservation of evidence.
- 7 The answer is, I think, in the end, yes, just like
- 8 Mr. Clark's clients would.
- 9 I think your clients can take solace
- 10 in the fact that they have -- obviously, despite the
- 11 coequal rights of the other members of the board to
- 12 have information about the company, your clients know
- 13 far more about what is going on there than anybody.
- 14 They will probably -- that will probably start to even
- 15 out after today.
- MR. MANWARING: Thank you.
- 17 MR. CLARK: Your Honor, just a couple
- 18 of questions for clarification.
- 19 If I understand what the Court has
- 20 said, we will add a paragraph in here providing for a
- 21 status conference in ten days before the Court, at
- 22 which, among other things, the custodian and his
- 23 counsel can come in and comment on the order, as to
- 24 whether it needs to be modified or altered in some way
 - 1 they think is appropriate.
- 2 If I heard you correctly, if the
- 3 custodian thinks that it is appropriate for the
- 4 company to do something that -- and I'm not using this
- 5 as a term of art, but do something that is out of the
- 6 ordinary course, if you will, that he would first go
- 7 to the board of directors as is currently comprised,
- 8 make a proposal, and if after conferring with the
- 9 board there is some issue there, then he can come to
- 10 the Court and seek direction from the Court.

- 11 THE COURT: Yeah. As I understand the
- 12 way you have written the order now, essentially,
- 13 nobody can do anything with respect to the company
- 14 without the receiver's approval.
- MR. CLARK: Correct, Your Honor.
- 16 THE COURT: I'm imagining a situation
- 17 where the receiver may want to do something. I have
- 18 no problem with paragraph four or the order for now.
- 19 I think what we ought to do -- Kroll, I am assuming,
- 20 has been involved in other circumstances like this.
- MR. CLARK: Oh, yes.

ئسة

- 22 THE COURT: And may have some
- 23 expertise to bring to bear in terms -- itself, in
- 24 terms of the type of order it might want. But I can

- 1 imagine a situation that might ruffle the feathers of
- 2 your client or might ruffle the feathers of
- 3 Mr. Manwaring, where a receiver says, "I need to do
- 4 this. These people on the board are hopelessly
- 5 driven, Your Honor, but I have taken it to them in the
- 6 first instance." It could be something exactly like,
- 7 "We are not paying management anymore. We have asked
- 8 them the direct questions about this, in terms of
- 9 dealing with AIG, and they have taken the Fifth."
- 10 MR. CLARK: So the custodian could go
- 11 -- with anything that the custodian deems appropriate,
- 12 he can go to -- it can go to the board of directors,
- 13 seek approval of the board; absent unanimous approval
- 14 of the board, then he can come to the Court and seek
- 15 the Court's direction?

- 16 THE COURT: Yes. That's what I'm
- 17 saying. Right now, I don't know the -- you know, that
- 18 is why I want the receiver or the custodian, whatever
- 19 you all believe will give the creditors the least
- 20 amount of leverage simply because we have done this,
- 21 not to -- I don't know if there are any creditors'
- 22 representatives in the room. It's not that we don't
- 23 love them, but there are all kinds of acceleration
- 24 triggers that are often in financing instruments that,

- 1 you know, we don't want to inadvertently, lightly just
- 2 trigger, just for the -- when it doesn't have anything
- 3 to do with the basic solvency of the company. But the
- 4 business has got to run.
- 5 MR. CLARK: Right.
- 6 THE COURT: If it's a fairly large
- 7 business, over the course of three or four months,
- 8 even longer, I mean, if you assume I have to
- 9 rationally -- I have to decide a case, and you all
- 10 don't get this resolved before then, then something
- 11 could come up where the receiver really has to act.
- 12 So I want something in there that addresses that. But
- 13 I want Kroll's advice about that, and that of Kroll's
- 14 counsel.
- MR. CLARK: Very good, Your Honor.
- 16 Your Honor indicated that the litigation stay is
- 17 terminated. We will put a paragraph in here saying
- 18 that. We also had a -- have a motion on -- for leave
- 19 to actually file our second amended verified
- 20 complaint.

- 21 THE COURT: Yes, you may do that.
- 22 MR. CLARK: Very good. I will put in
- 23 a provision scheduling a trial and leave it blank for
- 24 Your Honor.

- 1 THE COURT: Work with Mr. Manwaring on
- 2 that. What I'm saying is I don't think we can go at a
- 3 leisurely pace, but we are now almost to November. I
- 4 think it's unrealistic to think we could get to trial
- 5 in December.
- 6 MR. CLARK: Early January is -- sounds
- 7 fine. I never liked Christmas and New Year's much
- 8 anyhow, Your Honor.
- 9 THE COURT: Well, I have ADVO/
- 10 Valassis. ADVO, they stick all these little things, a
- 11 little MAE case coming up in --
- 12 MR. CLARK: A little Tyson/IBP deja vu
- 13 case. I heard from my friend, Mr. Roth, about that.
- 14 THE COURT: He is back, and they are
- 15 taking 70,000 depositions.
- MR. CLARK: I told him he is back and
- 17 he is bad.
- 18 THE COURT: If you and Mr. Manwaring
- 19 can talk about something in January. Needless to say,
- 20 this is not ideal for anybody. And, you know, the
- 21 fact that we are doing this today, the Court is doing
- 22 this, doesn't mean that you still shouldn't try to
- 23 solve your problem.
- MR. CLARK: Very much interested in

```
1 doing so, Your Honor. Thank you for Your Honor's time
   and attention.
                   THE COURT: Thank you.
                   (Recess at 11:58 a.m.)
 9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
```